Water Resources Commission Meeting March 12, 2015

Implementation Update Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

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Outline

- Introduction & Background
- Progress on Implementing Recommended Actions
- Ongoing Agency-to-Agency Communications
- Partner Agency Updates
- Preparing for the 2017 Update

Introduction & Background

Several IWRS-Related Updates Today:

- Item A: Implementation update with agency partners
- Item B: Place-based planning (9a), feasibility grants (13c), and SB839 update (10e)
- Item C: Efforts to designate new scenic waterways (11b)
- Item D: Monitoring strategy for the department (1b, 1c)

Introduction & Background

- More than 40 recommended actions
- Some need legislative assistance, others don't
- Not all actions being implemented aggressively today

Refer to Attachment 1





Progress on Implementation

UNDERSTAND WATER RESOURCES, SUPPLIES, INSTITUTIONS



- . ④ ✓ 1a. Conduct additional groundwater investigations
- . Improve water resource data collection and monitoring
 - ✓1c. Coordinate inter-agency data collection, processing, and use in decision-making

UNDERSTAND OUT-OF-STREAM NEEDS/DEMANDS

- ✓2a. Update long-term water demand forecasts
- - ✓ 2c. Determine pre-1909 water right claims
 - 2d. Update water right records with contact information
 - ✓ 2e. Update Oregon's water-related permitting guide

UNDERSTAND INSTREAM NEEDS/DEMANDS

- √ 3a. Determine flows needed (quality & quantity) to support instream needs
 - 3b. Determine needs of groundwater dependent ecosystems

WATER-ENERGY NEXUS

- ✓ 4a. Analyze the effects on water from energy development projects & policies
- ✓ 4b. Take advantage of existing infrastructure to develop hydroelectric power
 - 4c. Promote strategies that increase/integrate energy & water savings

CLIMATE CHANGE

- ✓ 5a. Support continued basin-scale climate change research efforts
- ✓ 5b. Assist with climate change adaptation and resiliency strategies

WATER-LAND USE NEXUS

- 6a. Improve integration of water information into land-use planning (& vice versa)
- 6b. Update state agency coordination plans
- 6c. Encourage low-impact development practices

INFRASTRUCTURE

- ✓ 7a. Develop and upgrade water & wastewater infrastructure
- 7b. Encourage regional (sub-basin) approaches to water and wastewater systems

KEY:

- 4 Additional funding provided by 2013 Legislature
- Completed or significant progress made

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- 8a. Support Oregon's K-12 environmental literacy plan
- 8b. Provide education and training for Oregon's next generation of water experts
- ✓ 8c. Promote community education & training opportunities
- ✓ 8d. Identify ongoing water-related research needs

PLACE-BASED EFFORTS

- ✓ 9a. Undertake place-based integrated, water resources planning
 - 9b. Coordinate implementation of existing natural resource plans
- ✓ 9c. Partner with federal agencies, tribes, and neighboring states in long-term water resources management

WATER MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- 10a. Improve water-use efficiency & water conservation
- - 10c. Encourage additional water reuse projects
 - 10d. Reach environmental outcomes with non-regulatory alternatives

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

- 11a. Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage
- - ✓ 11d. Protect and restore instream habitat and habitat access for fish & wildlife

PUBLIC HEALTH

- ✓12a. Ensure the safety of Oregon's drinking water
- . @ ✓ 12b. Reduce the use of and exposure to toxics and other pollutants

FUNDING

- . √13a. Fund development & implementation of Oregon's IWRS

Refer to Attachment 2: Roadmap to Implementation

Progress on Implementation

- Priorities with a monitoring/data emphasis:
 - Conducting groundwater studies (1a)
 - Installing new gaging stations and monitoring wells (1b)
 - Expanding water quality monitoring (1b)
 - Reinstating a water use reporting coordinator (2b)
 - Developing new instream protections (3a)
 - Expanding the state's aquatic invasive species efforts (11c)

Progress on Implementation

Implementing priority actions that directly assist Oregon communities:

- Cost-share fund for measurement devices (2b)
- Establishing loans/grants for water projects (10e)
- Recapitalizing the Feasibility Grant Fund (13c)
- Supporting WaterSMART Basin Study in the Upper Deschutes sub-basin (5a, 9a)
- Launching the Willamette Basin Reservoir Study (10b)

Ongoing Agency-to-Agency Communications

- Continue to meet with the IWRS Agency Advisory Group
- Platform to feature state agency projects or initiatives
- Continue to meet with federal partners

Partner Agency Updates

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

- New groundwater monitoring efforts (1b)
- WISE Project monitoring (1c)
- Improving agency coordination on Division 33 process (1c)
- Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships (12b)
- Pursuing a new onsite septic loan program (12c)



Partner Agency Updates

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife



- Understanding & developing instream protections (3a, 11b)
- In-Conduit Hydropower (4b)
- Inspecting watercraft for aquatic invasive species (11c)
- New techniques in the Fish Passage Program (11d)

Partner Agency Updates



Oregon Department of Agriculture

- Agricultural water quality program initiatives (1b)
- Place-based planning (9a)
- Education & outreach with agricultural water users (8d, 2a)
- Willamette Basin Reservoir Study (10b, 2a)
- Estimating agricultural demands (2a)
- SB 839 process (10e)

Preparing for the 2017 IWRS

- Next iteration is due in 2017
- Commission is responsible for adoption
- Agencies prepared budget packages for 2015-17 to support the IWRS
- Plan to update the statewide water demand forecast
- New maps
- New Policy Advisory Group

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Any Questions?

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